

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's allowance of Claims 1-6, 19-24 and 29.

Applicants will now address the Examiner's remaining rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejects Claims 7-10, 25-28 and 30-33 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsukabi et al. (US 6,696,096) in view of Van Slyke et al. (US publication no. 2003/0015140 A1), Utsugi et al. (US 6,294,892), Terasaka et al. (US 4,897,290) and Smith (US 6,830,626). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

While Applicants traverse this rejection, in order to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants are canceling Claims 7-10, 25-28 and 30-33, rendering this rejection moot. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants are filing an information disclosure statement (IDS) herewith. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner enter and consider this IDS prior to the issuance of any further action on this application.

Conclusion

Accordingly, as only allowed claims are now pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and should be allowed.

If any fee is due for this amendment, please charge our deposit account 50/1039.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark J. Murphy
Registration No. 34,225

COOK, ALEX, MCFARRON, MANZO,
CUMMINGS & MEHLER, LTD.
200 West Adams Street - Ste. 2850
Chicago, IL 60606
(312) 236-8500
Customer no. 000026568